

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (New) A mobile terminal operable to receive a broadcast program and receive program data, identical in content to the broadcast program, from a program distribution center via a network, said mobile terminal comprising:

a receiver section operable to receive the broadcast program;

a state determining section operable to monitor a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiver section, and operable to determine whether the reception state of the broadcast program is a deteriorated reception state;

a program information generating section operable to generate program information, the program information identifying the broadcast program received by said receiver section;

a communication section operable to transmit the program information to the program distribution center, and, according to the program information transmitted to the program distribution center, operable to receive from the program distribution center the program data identical in content to the broadcast program; and

a reproducing section operable to reproduce the broadcast program received by said receiving section until the reception state of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state, and, upon a determination by said state determining section that the reception state of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state, said reproducing section is operable to switch from reproduction of the broadcast program received by said receiving section to reproduction of the program data received by said communication section.

Claim 15 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, wherein said state determining section is further operable to determine whether the reception state of the broadcast program will become the deteriorated reception state within a predetermined period of time.

Claim 16 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, wherein said state determining section comprises:

a position specifying section operable to specify a future position to which said mobile terminal will move; and

a reception state estimating section containing information on weak-signal areas, and operable to estimate whether the future position, to which said mobile terminal will move within a predetermined period of time, will be within a weak-signal area.

Claim 17 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a recording section operable to record the program data received by said communication section, said reproducing section being operable to reproduce the program data recorded by said recording section during a period of time required for switching from the reproduction of the broadcast program to the reproduction of the program data.

Claim 18 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 17, wherein the period of time required for switching includes a period of time for changing an image setting required according to a difference in an image resolution between the broadcast program and the program data.

Claim 19 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, wherein the program information further includes information which identifies a reproducing point in the broadcast program at a point in time when the reception state of the broadcast program becomes a deteriorated reception state.

Claim 20 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, wherein the program information further includes information which identifies a reproducing point in the broadcast program selected by a user.

Claim 21 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, wherein, upon a determination by said state determining section that the reception state of the broadcast program has recovered from the deteriorated reception state, said reproducing section is operable to switch to reproduction of the broadcast program.

Claim 22 (New) The mobile terminal according to Claim 14, wherein, upon a determination by said state determining section that the reception state of the broadcast program has become a deteriorated reception state, said state determining section is operable to report the determination to a user, and

wherein, in accordance with a switching instruction given from the user, said reproducing section is operable to continue reproduction by switching from the broadcast program to the program data.

Claim 23 (New) A program reception controlling method performed by a mobile terminal operable to receive a broadcast program and receive program data, identical in content to the broadcast program, from a program distribution center via a network, said program reception controlling method comprising:

receiving the broadcast program;

determining whether a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program is a deteriorated reception state;

generating program information identifying the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program;

transmitting the program information to the program distribution center, and, according to the program information transmitted to the program distribution center, receiving from the program distribution center the program data identical in content to the broadcast program received; and

reproducing the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program until the reception state of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception

state, and, upon a determination, by said determining of whether a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program is a deteriorated state, that the reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state switching from said reproducing of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program to reproduction of the program data received from said receiving from the program distribution center.

Claim 24 (New) A computer program stored in a computer-readable recording medium for causing a mobile terminal to perform program reception control, the mobile terminal operable to receive a broadcast program and receive program data, identical in content to the broadcast program, from a program distribution center via a network, said computer program stored in a computer-readable recording medium comprising:

receiving the broadcast program;

determining whether a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program is a deteriorated reception state;

generating program information identifying the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program;

transmitting the program information to the program distribution center, and, according to the program information transmitted to the program distribution center, receiving from the program distribution center the program data identical in content to the broadcast program received; and

reproducing the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program until the reception state of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state, and, upon a determination, by said determining of whether a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program is a deteriorated state, that the reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state switching from said reproducing of the broadcast program received by

said receiving of the broadcast program to reproduction of the program data received from said receiving from the program distribution center.

Claim 25 (New) A computer data signal for causing a mobile terminal to perform program reception control, the mobile terminal operable to receive a broadcast program and receive program data, identical in content to the broadcast program, from a program distribution center via a network, said computer data signal comprising:

receiving the broadcast program;

determining whether a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program is a deteriorated reception state;

generating program information identifying the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program;

transmitting the program information to the program distribution center, and, according to the program information transmitted to the program distribution center, receiving from the program distribution center the program data identical in content to the broadcast program received; and

reproducing the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program until the reception state of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state, and, upon a determination, by said determining of whether a reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program is a deteriorated state, that the reception state of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program has become the deteriorated reception state switching from said reproducing of the broadcast program received by said receiving of the broadcast program to reproduction of the program data received from said receiving from the program distribution center.